



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PH-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05

ACDA-05 SCCT-01 EB-07 /076 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4939

INFO DIA DOD WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: LABOR LEADERS' ACCORD WITH MILITARY ON POST-COUP  
RELATIONS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1330

1. SUMMARY. IMPORTANT GROUP OF CGT AND UNION LABOR LEADERS HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH MILITARY ON GENERAL ASPECTS OF POST-COUP GOA/LABOR RELATIONS. AGREEMENT CALLS FOR INTERVENTION OF CGT AND SEVERAL UNIONS AND ARREST OF CERTAIN LABOR LEADERS, BUT ANTICIPATE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A CONTINUED FUNCTIONING LABOR MOVEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. CGT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER CALLED LABATT FOR URGENT MEETING MID-DAY TODAY (MARCH 22) AND GAVE FOLLOWING INFO. SOURCE HAS BEEN CONSISTENT SOURCE OF RELIABLE INFO AND HIS COMMENTS ARE BELIEVED TO ACCURATELY REPRESENT POSITION OF IMPORTANT GROUP OF LABOR LEADERS WHO HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH MILITARY.

3. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH MILITARY ON WHICH UNIONS ARE TO BE INTERVENED WHEN COUP OCCURS AND ON GENERAL MEANS BY WHICH CERTAIN LABOR LEADERS WILL BE

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REPLACED. GENERAL DALLA TEA IS THE MILITARY OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH GROUP. CGT WILL BE INTERVENED AND A MILITARY OFFICER WILL ACT AS INTERVENTOR. CGT SECGEN CASILDO HERRERAS DEPARTED DURING WEEKEND FOR URUGUAY TO AVOID ARREST WHEN COUP OCCURS. HE WILL RESIGN AS SECGEN OF TEXTILE WORKERS UNION (AOT) AND CGT BUT WILL CONTINUE AS ARGENTINE LABOR REPRESENTATIVE ON ILO GB. FOLLOWING UNIONS WILL BE INTERVENED, MOST LEADERS ARRESTED, AND MILITARY WILL CONTROL FOR LENGTHY PERIOD: METAL WORKERS (UOM), CONSTRUCTION (UOCRA), MEAT (CARNE), AND PORT WORKERS (SUPA). FOLLOWING UNIONS WILL BE INTERVENED BUT LABOR LEADERS COOPERATING WITH MILITARY WILL NEGOTIATE NECESSARY RESIGNATIONS AND APPROPRIATE REPLACEMENTS WITHIN UNIONS: TEXTILE (AOT), TELEPHONE (FOETRA), PRESS (A), NEWSVENDERS (CANILLITAS), STATE PETROLEUM (SUPE), AND STATE CIVIL SERVICE (UPCN). SPECIAL ATTENTION WILL BE PAID TO AUTOMOBILE WORKERS (SMATA). SECGEN RODRIGUEZ WILL CONTINUE TO HEAD UNION BUT MILITARY WILL USE FORCE AS NECESSARY TO INTERVENE AND CONTROL DISSIDENT LOCALS IN CORDOBA, ETC.

4. FULL MILITARY GOVT IS EXPECTED TO LAST ONLY ABOUT EIGHT DAYS, FOLLOWING WHICH SEVERAL CIVILIANS WILL BE BROUGHT IN TO REPLACE INTERIM MILITARY CABINET MINISTERS. FOLLOWING ARE INTERIM MINISTERS AS GIVEN TO LABOR LEADERS: FOREIGN RELATIONS - ADMIRAL VANEK; DEFENSE - BRIGGEN JOSE LOPEZ; INTERIOR - GEN C. CARDOSO; ECONOMY - GEN DE LAS HERAS; JUSTICE - BRIGGEN JOSE GOMEZ; LABOR - GEN MAZZOLA; EDUCATION - ADMIRAL FRAGUO; AND SOCIAL WELFARE - GEN BIGNONE. GEN CRESPI IS SLATED FOR BUENOS AIRES MAYOR. SOURCE SAID THERE COULD BE SOME CHANGES BUT THAT IS CURRENT LIST. HE ALSO SAID THEY EXPECTED ACINDAR CHIEF DE LA HOZ TO BECOME ECONOMY MINISTER LATER.

5. SOURCE IS SLATED TO ATTEND MARCH 24 MEETING IN URUGUAY WITH AFL-CIO OFFICIALS. DURING LABATT'S PRESENCE IN HIS OFFICE HE RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL ADVISING HE HAD MILITARY GUARANTEE THAT HE AND OTHER MEMBERS DELEGATION (ALL OF WHOM ARE WITHIN GROUP NEGOTIATING WITH MILITARY) COULD DEPART TONIGHT AT 8 PM AND RETURN

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MARCH 25. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING ORIT QUESTION, GROUP WILL ALSO EXPLAIN TO MCLELLAN ET AL THE POSITION ON MILITARY COUP.

6. ACCORDING SOURCE, AGREEMENT WITH MILITARY WAS REACHED AS HIS GROUP AWARE THAT BEST HOPE TO AVERT EVENTUAL LEFTIST CONTROL OF COUNTRY WAS FOR MILITARY/CIVILIAN ALLIANCE. AGREEMENT WILL ENABLE LABOR MOVEMENT TO SURVIVE AND TO INFLUENCE MILITARY TO ADOPT RATIONAL PROGRAMS. LABOR LEADERS DO NOT CONSIDER THEIR COOPERATION WITH MILITARY AS "TRAITOROUS" AS IT IS NECESSARY FOR INTERESTS OF LABOR MOVEMENT AND WORKERS. ALTHOUGH THEY ARE ALMOST ALL PERONISTS, THEY ACCEPT FACT THAT PERONIST MOVEMENT WITHOUT GEN PERON IS INCAPABLE OF MANAGING COUNTRY'S AFFAIRS. THEY DO NOT EXPECT MILITARY TO EXECUTE LABOR OR OTHER OFFICIALS SO THEY BELIEVE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION WILL ACCEPT WHAT IS "NOT A MILITARY COUP OR DICTATORSHIP BUT RATHER A MILITARY/CIVILIAN EFFORT TO REDIRECT NATIONS EFFORTS."

7. COMMENT. GROUP NEGOTIATING WITH MILITARY ARE ALL IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LABOR LEADERS OF DEMOCRATIC PERSUASION. THEY ARE ALSO ALL STAUNCH ANTI-COMMUNISTS AND FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS THE U.S.

8. ALTHOUGH LABOR LEADERS VIEW ABOVE AS LIKELY SCENARIO FOLLOWING COUP, THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT MODERATE MILITARY LEADERS WILL BE ABLE TO ABIDE BY ACCORD. MORE RADICAL MILITARY OFFICERS MAY FORCE HARDER LINE VIS A VIS LABOR RELATIONS.  
WOODWARD

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